

City of Blue Lake
City Council Regular Meeting
Skinner Store – 111 Greenwood Ave., Blue Lake, CA
May 26, 2015
MINUTES

The Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Councilmembers Present: Jean Lynch, John Sawatzky, Michele McCall-Wallace, Stephen Kullmann
(There is one vacancy.)

Staff Present: Deputy City Clerk April Sousa, City Manager John Berchtold

Motion to Approve the Agenda

Councilmember Kullman *motioned to approve the agenda*. Councilmember Sawatzky seconded.
Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input

None

Resolution No. 1053: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Blue Lake Implementing the State's Updated Emergency Water Conservation Regulations

City Manager Berchtold restated water restriction options placed by the State. Clarification was made regarding enforcement of restrictions.

Scott Oberlies, Blue Lake Resident, spoke favorably of the proposed resolution and encouraged Council to continue to communicate with the State regarding across the state restrictions.

Councilmember Kullmann *motioned to adopt Resolution No. 1053: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Blue Lake Implementing the State's Updated Emergency Water Conservation Regulations*. Councilmember Sawatzky seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Regarding Drive Approaches off of B Street

Mayor McCall-Wallace gave an overview of the agenda item, why it was placed on the agenda, and the supporting packet documents: Staff Report, Encroachment Permit Application requested by Matt & Charis Bowman, materials submitted by Matt & Charis Bowman, and comments submitted by Mayor McCall-Wallace.

Lynn Szabo, Blue Lake resident and affected party, handed out a letter to Council. She also stated that as part of this issue, she was giving a formal complaint against the City Manager for his part in this issue.

Matt Bowman, Blue Lake resident and affected party, spoke on the issue and clarified that the end of B Street is a rear access to their property.

Charis Bowman, Blue Lake resident and affected party, also spoke on the issue regarding neighbor communications.

Scott Oberlies, Blue Lake resident, asked questions regarding the foot of B Street as a whole. He encouraged the City to look at the bigger picture.

Mayor McCall-Wallace clarified that no official documents or plans from any of the neighbors regarding structures have been brought to the Planning Commission or Council. The supporting documents including the submitted encroachment permit was for information only.

Mediation and a land survey were suggested to affected parties. A reminder was given that both these suggestions are not within the scope of the City or Council. Clarification was given that neighbor disputes are not within the scope of the City Council.

Mayor McCall-Wallace restated that she heard Ms. Szabo ask to make a formal complaint against the City Manager. Ms. Szabo was asked if she could highlight the areas of her letter that was specific to this complaint.

Mayor McCall-Wallace asked that it be noted in the minutes that Ms. Szabo stated that she felt that this complaint should be discussed at the City Manager's review in August.

It was noted that Council will continue to post agendas as required by law. The Encroachment Permit process, which is an administrative process, will continue to move forward. Once this process reaches the level of the Council, a courtesy notice will be provided to all affected property owners.

Authorization Process for Projects on City Properties

City Manager Berchtold noted the reasons for this item on the agenda. It was suggested that a letter be written and sent to various community groups to remind all the process in which volunteer projects must take.

Dennis Whitcomb, Blue Lake resident and member of the Old Crows community group, asked for clarification on the process for groups to take.

The process was summarized as: (1) meet with the City Manager, (2) discuss projects with proper commission if directed by City Manager, (3) gain approval from City Council.

It was noted that volunteers need to also sign a volunteer waiver for each project.

It was suggested that the letter also be posted on the City's website as well as the usual posting locations (i.e. Post Office, Mad River Grange bulletin board, City Hall, etc).

Councilmember Lynch asked how this relates to the City's insurance needs, and if the issue could be brought up during the workshop with PARSAC.

After more discussion on the public affected and the variety of volunteer projects being encompassed, Councilmember Sawatzky *motioned to authorize a letter to be sent to community groups as well as have it posted for the general public.* Councilmember Kullmann seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Input - Deputy Oliveira asked to give input out of order on agenda item no. 5 regarding the drive approaches to B Street and sheriff involvement of the issue regarding a citation that Ms. Szabo received.

Discussion Regarding Blue Lake Saddle Club Fundraising

Councilmember Lynch brought this forward as a Parks and Recreation Commission recommendation and discussion.

It was noted that the group that calls themselves the Blue Lake Saddle Club has done fundraising in the past for Parks and Recreation. It was asked if these funds could be placed in a separate fund by the City to be used for the upkeep of the Gymkhana Field/Horse Arena.

After discussion, it was suggested that the Blue Lake Saddle Club write a full proposal of the fundraising efforts, what it will be used for, and how the money is to be administered and bring this to the Council. It was suggested that the club will have more power of how the money is spent if they keep the funds in their own account.

Consent Agenda

Mayor McCall-Wallace pulled item c: Recommendation from Parks and Recreation to Construct and Allocate \$200 for Supplies of Horseshoe Pit by the Old Crows.

Councilmember Sawatzky *motioned to accept Consent Agenda item a: Minutes from May 12, 2015, and item b: Ink People Lease.* Councilmember Lynch seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Recommendation from Parks and Recreation to Construct and Allocate \$200 for Supplies of Horseshoe Pit by the Old Crows

Mayor McCall-Wallace stated that she pulled this item as an example of the process for authorization of projects done by volunteer groups. The horseshoe pit was put into place prior to Council approval.

Clarification was made regarding the types of items placed on the consent agenda.

Councilmember Kullmann asked the Mayor to explain the Consent Agenda during the agenda approving point of each meeting, in case someone would like to discuss an item on the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Sawatzky *motioned to accept item 8 c: Recommendation from Parks and Recreation to Construct and Allocate \$200 for Supplies of Horseshoe Pit by the Old Crows*. Councilmember Kullmann seconded.

During discussion, it was noted that the allocation should be up to \$200 and that receipts should be brought forward for allocation.

Councilmember Sawatzky amended his previous motion, restating the motion as: *to accept item 8 c: Recommendation from Parks and Recreation to Construct and Allocate up to \$200, receiving receipts, for Supplies of Horseshoe Pit by the Old Crows*. Councilmember Kullmann accepted the amendment. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports of Council and Staff

Councilmember Lynch reported on the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mention of a portable toilet located at the horse arena was noted for a future agenda item. Councilmember Lynch also reported on the Redwood Coast Energy Authority Meeting.

Councilmember Kullmann reported on the Mad River Alliance meeting.

Councilmember Sawatzky reported on the Humboldt Waste Management Authority meeting that he attended as alternate, as Councilmember Kullmann was unable to attend. He relayed the discussion from the last meeting regarding the Draft RFP and Council's decision for the MOU to the HWMA board.

City Manager Berchtold reported on the increase of Camp Scholarships, Prasch Hall painting and an odor eliminating system for the Sewer Plant that was designed in house and seems to be working. Would like to acknowledge Public Works Supervisor Glenn Bernald for his work on this project.

Mayor McCall-Wallace reported on the HCAOG meeting and the League of California Cities regional meeting in Ferndale. It was noted that the League would like as many councilmembers as possible to attend regional meetings. There will be another in Trinidad in July.

Future Agenda Items

- Budget
- City Councilmember Applications
- Time limits for public input
- Portable Toilet at Horse Arena

Correspondence

There was discussion regarding letter written by Blue Lake Community Church regarding directional signs placed in the City. It was suggested that a full proposal be brought to the Council for consideration.

Cards were passed around for Council to sign for Margot Barnard (for design of the landscaping of corner "park" built by the Old Crows), Patricia Powell (for donation of funds to Parks and Recreation), and Carol Rische (Director of the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District who is retiring soon).

Adjourn

Councilmember Kullmann *motioned to adjourn*. Councilmember Sawatzky seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

April Sousa
Deputy City Clerk